

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PANAMA 02397 101706Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SAB-02 EB-08 TRSE-00 /064 W
-----071793 101713Z /47

O 101635Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6470
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 2397

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PN
SUBJECT: TORRIJOS CONTINUES TO COUNSEL CALM

SUMMARY: IN A SPEECH APRIL 8, TORRIJOS REPEATED HIS CALL FOR
PEOPLE TO WAIT CALMLY TO RECEIVE FINAL RESULTS FROM U.S.
SENATE AND THEN TO DISCUSS THEM FULLY AND OBJECTIVELY.
END SUMMARY

1. GENERAL TORRIJOS GAVE WELL-ATTENDED SPEECH AT A ROAD DEDI-
CATION CEREMONY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 8 IN COCLE PROVINCE. THE
BULK OF HIS REMARKS WERE OF THE "ROADS ARE ALSO REVOLUTION"
TYPE DIRECTED PRIMARILY TO STRICTLY LOCAL CONCERNS.

2. TORRIJOS SPOKE OF THIS PERIOD AS A CRUCIAL ONE FOR
PANAMANIAN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT: "... AT PRESENT IT IS BEING
DECIDED WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST AS A
COUNTRY... I NEED TO LOOK AT THE FACES OF THE PEOPLE. THE MORE
I LOOK AT THESE FACES, THE MORE I AM STRENGTHENED AND DETERMINED
TO CONTINUE STRUGGLING."

3. REGARDING THE U.S. SENATE DEBATE ON THE CANAL
TREATIES, TORRIJOS ADVISED HIS LISTENERS: "LET US WAIT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PANAMA 02397 101706Z

CALMLY TO RECEIVE THE FINAL RESULTS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING
IN THE UNITED STATES AND LATER WE WILL SPEAK IN MUCH MORE
DETAIL, WITH MORE OBJECTIVITY, AND WITH OPINIONS THAT
HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT MORE CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT AND MORE
CAREFULLY WEIGHTED."

4. HE CALLED THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE

COUNTRY THE MOST "DISTRESSING" SINCE THE ECONOMIC TROUBLES OF 1929 AND THE 1930'S, BUT HE FORESAW BRIGHTER TIMES AHEAD.

5. MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE SPEECH, WHICH WAS BROADCAST LIVE, WAS ROUTINE FOR TORRIJOS SPEECHES.
(EXCERPTS FBIS/PANAMA PA 081904Y.)

6. COMMENT: MOST SIGNIFICANT THING ABOUT THIS SPEECH IS WHAT WAS NOT SAID--DESPITE THE GROWING AVALANCHE OF DECLARATIONS BY PRIVATE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRY, TORRIJOS IS STILL CONFINING HIS STATEMENTS ABOUT TREATY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE US TO CALLS FOR PATIENCE, CALM, OBJECTIVITY AND NATIONAL UNITY. HE IS EVIDENTLY STILL WAITING FOR THE PROPITIOUS MOMENT TO EITHER START TO OPENLY REFUTE CRITICS OF THE NEUTRALITY TREATY, OR TO AGREE WITH THEM.
JORDEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PANAMA02397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780154-0153
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780474/aaaacflk.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d6b20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3021073
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TORRIJOS CONTINUES TO COUNSEL CALM SUMMARY: IN A SPEECH APRIL 8. TORRIJOS REPEATED HIS CALL FOR PEOPLE TO WAIT CALMLY TO RECEIVE FINAL RESULTS FRO
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PN, (TORRIJOS HERRERA, OMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d6b20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014